Exploration of oil reserves in Krishna-Godavari Basin

707. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Reliance has made a stunning discovery of the largest natural gas in Krishna-Gadavari Basin in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the discovery;

(c) whether any action plan has been formulated to explore the gas;

(d) the amount required to extract gas from the above Basin; and

(e) to what extent it would help address the country's energy security concerns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Gas discovery has been made by the consortium of Reliance Industries Ltd. and M/s Niko Resources Ltd. in offshore Krishna Godavari basin deep water block KG-DWN-98/3 awarded to them under first round of bidding of New Exploration Licensing Policy. The preliminary estimates by the consortium indicate gas reserves of about 7 trillion cubic feet (about 198 billion cubic metres). As is the normal industry practice, following exploration; appraisal, development and production phases shall follow.

(c) to (e) Development Plans and schedule of comercial production in respect of these discoveries have not been firmed up by the concerned companies. As per Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH), based on the preliminary test results available so far, the discovery in block KG-DWN-98/3 may tentatively produce gas at a plateau rate of about 25—35 Million Standard Cubic Metre Per Day (MMSCMD) for a period of 6-8 years, thus reducing the gap between demand and supply of gas to that extent.

Losses suffered by ONGC

708. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC has lost 15,000 tonnes of Liquefied

Petroleum Gas during the first six months of the current fiscal year due to non-lifting by marketing companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial losses; and

(c) the details of measures proposed to be taken to stop recurrence of such losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) At present, LPG produced by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) is being marekted through Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and the upliftment of LPG by OMCs has been in the line with the estimated figures of production, the actual production by ONGC and market demand.

Review of Joint Ventures in Oil Sector

709. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether privatization of oil fields has not yielded any desired results so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether Government proposed to review all joint ventures in oil field sector; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The Production Sharing Contracts for discovered fields are valid for a period upto 25 years. There is no proposal to review existing contracts.

Purchase of Gas from Turkmenistan

710. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India propose to purchase gas through pipeline from Turkmenistan; if so, the quantity of gas likely to be imported;